THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The Seventh Five Year Plan did not make any promise for achieving zero rate of inflation. However, the price rise during the first three years of the Seventh Five Year Plan is much less than the rise during the three year periods of 1979—82 or 1972—75 as may be seen from the following table:—

Year	WPI (1970-71=100) (Percentage change)	CPI (1960=100) (Percentage change)
1972-73	12.3	11.3
1973-74	30.0	27.3
1974-75	10.1	16.7
1979-80	21.4	12.3
1980-81	16.7	12.6
1981-82	2.4	8.8
1985-86	3.8	8.9
1986-87	5.3	7.5
1987-88	10.6	9.8

(b) The main reason for the notable increase in prices during the period was the severe drought of 1987-88 resulting in short-fall in production of agricultural and agro based commodities.

(c) The specific measures taken by the Government to keep the price rise under check include enhanced distribution of foodgrains through Public Distribution System (PDS), strengthening of the PDS with the opening of additional outlets; import of essential commodities like pulses, edible oils and sugar; strict economy in Government expenditure; mopping up of excess liquidity in the economy and intensive action against hoarders and profiteers.

Identity Cards Issued in Border Districts of Western India along Indo-Pak Border

861. SHRI B. L. PANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) in how many border districts of Western India bordering Pakistan, identity cards have been issued to the inhabitants and how many Tehsils have been covered so far; and

(b) how many Tehsils remain to be covered and by when this work will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Government have approved the Pilot Scheme for issue of Identity Cards in Poogal, Nachna, Karanpur and Chauhatan Tehsils of Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Ganganagar and Barmer districts respectively in Rajasthan and Bhuj Taluka in Gujarat. The Government of Punjab are also working out schemes for issue of Identity Cards in border areas. Based on the results of this pilot scheme, the scheme for issue of Identity Cards may be extended to other border districts along the Western border.

Decline in Export of Tea to London

862. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traditional market for Indian tea in London is slowly slipping out of India's hands with Kenya and Sri Lanka emerging as two strong competitors and what are the sale figures during each of the last three years and so for during the current year of tea of the three countries in the London market;

(b) the quality, price and packing charges of Indian tea as compared with the above two countries in the London tea market; and